

**ABSTRACT**

A self-latching sash latch device for use with a sliding closure. The latch device has a primary bolt (15) which in  
5 use engages with a strike (12). The primary bolt (15) is  
coupled to an operating element (13) whereby the primary  
bolt is moveable from a latching position to a retracted  
position. A retainer (38) retains the primary bolt (15) in  
the retracted position. A secondary bolt (16) is moveable  
10 with or independent of the primary bolt (15) and is  
engageable with the retainer (38) to release the retainer  
and enable the primary bolt (15) to move from a retracted  
position to the latching position.

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